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**East Gloucestershire United
Districts**

(Comprising the Urban District of Cirencester
and the Rural Districts of Cirencester
Northleach and Tetbury)

AND THE

**Urban Districts of Nailsworth
and Stroud and the Rural
District of Stroud**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR

1953





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Abbey Way Health Clinic,
Cirencester.

August, 1954.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the fourth Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the East Gloucestershire United and Associated Districts.

The birth rate and the death rate from all causes per thousand of the estimated population, which is 91,982, were respectively 15·7 and 10·4, whereas the corresponding rates for England and Wales were 15·5 and 11·4. There were 1,453 live births compared with 1,397 in 1952, with 1,463 in 1951 and 1,472 in 1950. The infantile mortality rate per thousand live births was 16·51, the lowest recorded for the 7 districts. It is indeed gratifying to know that the number of babies who died under one year old has fallen to almost half the figure in any of the previous three years—it was 39 in 1950, 39 in 1951, 40 in 1952, and 24 in 1953.

No women died in, or in consequence of, childbirth.

The percentage of illegitimate births was 4·3 as compared with 4·6 the previous year. The stillbirth rate per thousand total births was 13, being 14 in 1952, 20 in 1951, and 21 in 1950. Careful ante-natal supervision is no doubt an important contributory factor governing this fall.

There were 965 deaths whereas there were 1,041 in 1952. Out of 965 deaths, 305 were certified as being due to heart disease, 156 as being due to malignant disease and 140 to vascular lesions of the nervous system. In the case of 156 deaths from malignant disease, it is interesting to observe, that the lesions were in the stomach in 21 patients, the lung or bronchus in 24 cases, in a breast in 17, and in the uterus in 4.

I am sorry to have to state that one child was notified as suffering from diphtheria, the diagnosis was confirmed. The child had not been immunised and unfortunately died. No cases of diphtheria have been notified in the districts for several years. Diphtheria immunisation is responsible for the undreamed of fall, during the past 12 years, in the case rate and death rate of this disease. The great reduction in cases and deaths as a result of immunisation has made it less easy to bring home to parents the vital importance of protecting their children. As the occurrence of the disease has diminished, fewer and fewer parents have any direct knowledge, let alone first hand experience of diphtheria, which is apt to make them dangerously unmindful of the disease, or mistakenly to believe that it has been almost got rid of in this country. Elimination of diphtheria is conditional upon the maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation. All babies should be immunised before the end of their first year of life unless there is some definite reason to the contrary. A reinforcing dose should be given before the child enters school and a maintenance dose during school life. From records received by the County Medical Officer immunisations of children in the age groups 0-4 years and 5-14 years during 1953 totalled 1,100 and 205 respectively. There were 1,546 children who received reinforcing doses during the same period. In 1952 the corresponding figures were 1,110; 85; and 984. For the year under review immunisations show an increase but room remains for considerable improvement.

The number of notifications of infectious disease received was 1,821 compared with 2,079 the previous year. Of these 1,423 were for measles and 252 for whooping cough. The corresponding figures for the previous 12 months were 1,026 and 676 respectively. No deaths fortunately have been recorded as attributable to either of these two infections. No doubt modern methods of treatment have largely assisted in preventing fatalities. In the past, broncho-pneumonia or other complication was liable to produce a fatal issue, especially in young children under

5 years of age. These two illnesses are most infectious in their early stages when droplet spray from the nose and throat, during coughing and sneezing and talking, may readily transmit infection. At that same time infected articles, such as handkerchiefs, clothes, bedclothes, etc., may spread infection. If every parent as soon as infectious disease is suspected, no matter its type, would put the person affected to bed, keep him or her away from others and call in the doctor at once, the sources for spreading infection would be considerably reduced. Unfortunately, the general attitude of "laissez faire," until infection is obvious, plays into the hands of the germs transmitting infectious disease with epidemic spread, carrying in its train a loss in working time and an economic drain, both of which are capable of considerable reduction.

There were 4 cases of poliomyelitis notified.

The number of notifications of tuberculosis received was 82 as compared with 88 for the previous year, 96 in 1951, and 132 in 1950. Of the 82 cases 57 were pulmonary compared with 71 in 1952. There were 16 deaths from this infection in 1953 and 21 the previous year. With regard to re-housing, 24 tuberculosis cases were re-housed during the year, an increase of 8 on 1952. There is now a more vigorous search for cases of tuberculosis than there was in the past, particularly by Mass Radiography which is a potent means of finding unsuspected sufferers. Every advantage should be taken of Mass Radiography facilities by the public when these are available.

During the year there was one notified case of food poisoning, and in addition a small food poisoning outbreak, the cases concerned were notified elsewhere. On investigation all of the cases were found to have arisen from defective food practice in the home and not from faulty public catering arrangements. Details of the considerable amount of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors with regard to the protection of public food supplies are available in the body of the Report.

C.U.D.C.

C.R.D.C.

N.R.D.C.

T.R.D.C.

N.U.D.C.

S.U.D.C.

S.B.D.C.

The sanitary circumstances of the several districts so far as housing, water supplies, sewerage, etc., are concerned, steadily improved, the housing progress being particularly worthy of note. These matters are again fully dealt with in the report.

Before concluding my report I would like to emphasise one major cause of death and illness not commonly appreciated in its proper light, that is, accidents in the home. It is not usually realised that more people are killed each year by home accidents than die by accidents on the roads. It comes as a shock to learn that there is nearly one death from this cause per hour of each day, the people particularly affected are those at the extremes of age. Lack of attention to defects in the home, neglecting items such as fixed fireguards, and carelessness, are at the root of the trouble. If people will give some thought to rectifying defects and providing simple protective measures, and this includes attention to design in new houses, together with reasonable care, such accidents could largely be prevented. In the past four years in the seven districts there have been 50 deaths from motor vehicle accidents and 97 deaths from other accidents, a total of 147 deaths from accidental causes.

To the Chairman and Members of the Councils I offer my cordial thanks for the unfailing care and enthusiasm they give in considering all the various problems affecting the health and welfare of the districts. I also take this opportunity of thanking the Sanitary Inspectors and other Health Department staff for the detailed preparation of this report and for their loyal and efficient service. My thanks are also due to the Clerks and other officials for the help and co-operation I have received from them during the year.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. DAVIDSON-LAMB,
Medical Officer of Health.

Cirencester Urban District Council

STAFF

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. A. Furniss, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector and Housing Surveyor.

Mr. R. A. T. Kemp, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector. (Resigned in March, 1953).

Mr. S. R. Baylis, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector. (Commenced duties, May, 1953).

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	5,844
Population (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	7,203
„ (Registrar General 1953)	...	...	...	...	11,690
Number of inhabited houses (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	1,886
„ „ (end of 1953)	...	...	...	...	3,037
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£76,856
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£307

RAINFALL

The rainfall for the year was 26·24 inches, which is a decrease of 3 inches on 1952. The figure quoted can be taken as being representative of the district within a radius of 5 miles.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTHS

Live Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total ...	116	96	212
Legitimate ...	115	91	206
Illegitimate ...	1	5	6

Birth rate per 1,000 population 18·1 (National figure 15·5).

Still Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total ...	3	1	4
Legitimate ...	3	1	4

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population 0·34 (National figure 0·35).

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live births 18·8.

DEATHS

	M.	F.	Total
Total	77	83	160

Death rate per 1,000 population 13.7 (National figure 11.4).

No. of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth : Nil.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	M.	F.	Total
Total	2	—	2
Legitimate	2	—	2

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births 9.4 (National figure 26.8).

Average age at death due to Natural Causes: 72.3 years.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
other	—	1	1
Syphilitic disease	—	1	1
Diphtheria	1	—	1
Acute poliomyelitis	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
lung, bronchus	4	—	4
breast	—	6	6
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	12	17
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	11	23
Coronary disease, angina	9	7	16
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	3	4
Other heart disease	6	8	14
Other circulatory disease	3	6	9
Influenza	1	2	3
Pneumonia	6	4	10
Bronchitis	6	1	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	—	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	17	20
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	1	—	1
TOTALS	77	83	160

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Total notifications	Admitted to hospital
Scarlet fever	11	—
Whooping cough	10	—
Measles	272	—
Diphtheria	1	1
Pneumonia	13	2
Dysentery	1	—
Chicken Pox	5	—
Food Poisoning	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases

M.	F.	Total
11	7	18

Deaths

M.	F.	Total
1	2	3

Of the 18 new cases (7 were transferred from other districts), 14 were lungs, 1 glands, 1 skin, 1 kidney and 1 meninges; 8 were treated in hospital and the others were treated at home.

Four tuberculosis patients were re-housed during the year.

PROTECTION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Following are the total number of children who completed the two injections for protection against diphtheria during 1953 :—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
122	36	158

Also during the year 277 children under 15 years received a maintenance or reinforcing dose. There was 1 death from diphtheria during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No cases arose during the year calling for action under the Act.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies

The supply from the Council's Baunton Water Works continued throughout the year to be entirely satisfactory in quality. All samples submitted for bacteriological examination have indicated that the water continues to be of exceptionally high purity.

During the year the quantity supplied in the Council's area of supply was 166,522,000 gallons and 45,635,000 gallons were supplied under bulk agreements.

One sample of water was taken from a shallow well serving one property in the town. Chemical and bacteriological examination showed that this water was unfit for drinking and the owner was called upon to provide a supply from the town's main, together with proper sink and drainage, and this was done.

Swimming Baths

The swimming season at the open-air swimming baths was from May to September, and again proved very popular.

Alterations were carried out in time for the opening by moving the Ladies' dressing cubicles, thereby giving additional space adjacent to the edge of the bath for spectators and sun bathing.

Attendances, particularly of children, were again well maintained.

Sewage and Sewage Disposal

During the year the sewerage system was again extended so as to provide drainage facilities for Overhill Road, Stratton.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Collection of house refuse continued on a once weekly basis with a second collection for kitchen waste. Disposal continues by controlled tipping, some 2,805 tons having been collected and disposed of during the year.

Salvage

The total weight of salvaged material sold during the year amounted to 437 tons, 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts., made up as follows :—

Paper (all grades)	251 tons 6 cwts.
Rags	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.
Metals	1 ton 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.
Kitchen Waste	185 tons

The value of such materials was £2,989.

The building at the Council's Depot housing the sterilizing plant was extended and altered and an additional door was provided in one side in order to ensure that the waste food coming into the plant was housed in a separate compartment and did not come in contact with the sterilised food produced. This was done in order to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Regulations. Although the price of the sterilised waste was increased during the year to meet the rising cost of running the plant, it was found this product was still very much in demand.

Rivers and Streams

A number of inspections were made of rivers and streams in the district and no serious nuisance was observed. By arrangement, the Council took over the ownership and control of the Barton Mill Stream which had previously caused a nuisance, and it was agreed with the previous owners that the stream should be cleaned out over a period of two years in order to prevent a re-occurrence. During the year approximately 175 yards of the stream were cleaned out and the banks re-made.

Shops

164 visits were paid to shops in the town during the year. No serious contravention was observed and, except for minor decorations, no occupier was called upon to carry out work.

Food Preparing Premises

There are 12 registered food preparing premises in the town including 2 bacon factories. 71 visits have been made to these premises during the year. One registration has been transferred to a new occupier. Generally speaking, all the premises have been kept up to a good standard and no work has had to be called for except for minor decorations. Special attention has been paid to the food preparing rooms at the bacon factories where a large amount of cooked food is prepared for sale. The owners of both factories have been very co-operative and every step has been taken to ensure that food was produced under the most hygienic conditions.

All the cafes and restaurants in the town have been inspected from time to time and as a result of the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing in one cafe, pressure was brought on the occupier and this was ultimately closed. One new restaurant and snack-bar was opened in the town and this was provided with all the most up-to-date equipment and was satisfactory.

Food Handling—Bye-laws

A number of inspections have been made under the above bye-laws. No contraventions were observed during the year but one market stall holder was found to be a persistent offender in not exhibiting his name and address on the stall.

Ice Cream Premises

There are 17 registered premises, plus 3 new registrations, during the year. All but one establishment sell pre-

packed ice cream and all the premises have been inspected during the course of the year. 10 samples were taken during the year and all proved to be satisfactory from a cleanliness point of view and complied with the required fat content standard.

Milk and Dairies

37 visits have been made to the registered distributing dairy premises in the district and, generally, a very good standard of cleanliness has been observed.

7 Dealers' Licences were issued for Tuberculin Tested milk and 2 Dealers' Licences for Pasteurized milk. In addition, 1 Supplementary Licence for Tuberculin Tested milk and 2 Supplementary Licences to sell Pasteurized milk within the Urban area have been issued.

30 milk samples have been taken and 7 of these were found to be unsatisfactory. Samples of clean milk bottles were submitted to the Pathologist for a sterility test and all proved satisfactory.

Investigations were carried out at the premises where unsatisfactory milk was found. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were notified and certain action was taken at farms outside the district in order to improve the milk supply.

Smoke Abatement

Observations have been made of the emissions of smoke from the Bacon Factories and flour mill chimneys and no nuisance was observed during the year.

Moveable Dwellings

Three inspections were made of moveable dwellings in the district during the year and it was not found necessary to issue any licences.

Common Lodging Houses

The Public Health Committee refused to register premises previously used as a common lodging house due to the very dirty and unsatisfactory condition prevailing there and these premises were ultimately closed. Some difficulty was experienced here as four people had remained on the premises after due notice had been given to the occupier, and police assistance was sought in order to secure final closing.

Housing Acts

1166 inspections have been made of premises over the twelve months and this includes inspections under the Council's points scheme in respect of applications for council houses and also inspections under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act.

No action was taken under the Housing Act and all the housing defects found were dealt with under the provisions of the Public Health Act.

No applications have been received during the year for financial assistance for improvement of premises under the Housing Act, 1949.

Housing Progress

Three blocks of 12 flats (one block of 12 for the Cirencester Housing Society) and one block of 4 terraced houses were completed during the year, bringing the total to 40 council houses built for 1953. One block of 12 flats was in progress at the end of the year, also a bungalow, house and shop and 2 blocks of 4 single-bedroomed dwellings. 12 private enterprise houses were built during the year and 5 were under construction at the end of the year.

15 building licences to build dwelling houses were issued during the year.

56 families were re-housed during the year including 4 tubercular cases, and this brings the total of families re-housed since 1946 to 746.

Factories

104 factory premises were on the register this year and 204 inspections were made of premises. 39 occupiers were called upon to carry out work in relation to provision of ventilation, cleansing and sanitary accommodation and 30 complied with the requirements under the Act. One factory carried out certain work and was issued with a certificate under Section 34 of the Act relating to means of escape in case of fire.

All the bake-houses were visited twice during the year and, except for the annual cleansing and re-decorations, no work was called for. Generally, all bake-houses were kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Nuisances under the Public Health Act

54 nuisances were observed during the year and of these all but 3 were abated. It was not found necessary to serve any Statutory Notices during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

Although the following report covers a period of twelve months, it only represents 26 working weeks as the Inspector Operator is employed during alternate weeks by the Cirencester Rural District.

861 private dwellings and 248 business premises have been inspected during the year. 47 private dwellings and 51 business premises were treated for infestation. The Local Authority properties have been inspected and treated during the year, which include the Council Depot, Sewage Works, Refuse Tips, Council Allotments and Sewers in the town. When investigating complaints, many occupiers have treated their own premises on advice given by the Council's Officer.

As a result of a serious case of rat infestation at a large private house in the town, the owner was advised to carry

out proofing of the premises and this required the construction of a concrete sub-floor under a boarded floor. This work was done at a cost of something over £100 and since the work has been carried out no further complaints have been received.

All the farms in the Urban area have been visited and it has not been found necessary to treat any as the Gloucestershire Agricultural Executive Committee and other servicing companies have annual contracts for treating premises.

Slaughter of Animals Act

24 licences were renewed during the year and 4 new licences were granted for operatives in slaughterhouses in the town. No contraventions were observed and slaughtering, generally, was carried out in a satisfactory manner in all licensed slaughterhouses in the town.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

4 slaughterhouse licences were granted during the year (2 to the Government Slaughterhouses and 2 to the Bacon Factories).

Slaughtering at the Government Slaughterhouses has been carried out under difficult conditions due to serious lack of space and storage facilities. During the year the Council again approached the Ministry of Food on several occasions in order to obtain permission to build a public abattoir on a site adjoining the cattle market, but it was indicated that permission could not be given for this building to be erected until the Government had decided on a policy in relation to slaughtering throughout the country.

1172 visits and inspections were made at the licensed slaughterhouses where routine examinations were made of carcasses and offal prior to distribution to the butchers' shops.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed (if known) ...	1631	426	1549	7145	77092
No. inspected ...	1631	426	1549	7145	20585
<i>All diseases except T.B.—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	19	12	9	40	96
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	586	158	11	1340	4525
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	36.9	39.9	1.3	17.9	6% of pigs killed
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	7	2	1	—	46
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	24	45	—	—	2261
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B. ...	1.9	11.1	—	—	2.8% of pigs killed

Quite a number of casualties (cattle and sheep) have been received at the Government Slaughterhouses and on several occasions it has been necessary for the slaughtermen to slaughter animals on the farm at the request of a veterinary officer.

Unsound Meat

During the year a total of 48 tons 6 cwts. 1 qr. 10 lbs. of meat has been condemned from the Government Slaughterhouses and Bacon Factories in the town which shows a decrease of over 3 tons on the amount for the previous year.

Other Food

Foodstuffs have been examined at various food shops in the town from time to time and during the year the following has been found unfit for human consumption and has been surrendered as unfit :—

6 stone of smoked cod.
 3 chickens.
 64 lbs. of sausage.
 7 stone of cod.
 5 stone of herrings.
 53 pies.
 2 lbs. of brawn.
 6 lbs. of bacon.
 14 jars of fruit.
 144 lbs. of dried apricots.
 2 tins of cooked ham.
 1 jar of galantine.
 40 lbs. of smoked ham.
 25 lbs. of raisins.
 1 tin of tongue.
 1009 tins of meat, milk, fruit, vegetables, etc.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC., CARRIED OUT, 1953

District Inspections	...	...	...	...	699
Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	1165
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	210
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	71
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	16
Shops Inspections	...	...	...	...	164
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	3
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	24
Factory and Workshop Inspections	...	...	...	...	204
Drain Tests and Inspections	...	...	...	...	117
Dairies	...	...	...	...	37
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1172
Market Inspections	...	...	...	...	5
Building Inspection—Site Visits (during progress of work)	...	...	...	...	476

Cirencester Rural District Council

STAFF

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.
Mr. W. H. D. Rundle, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.
Mr. H. Wheeler, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector.
Mr. C. E. I. Abbey, A.M.Inst.H.E., Resident Engineer.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	82,790
Population (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	12,205
„ (Registrar General 1953)	...	...	...	...	17,140
Number of inhabited houses (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	3,280
„ „ (end of 1953)	...	...	...	...	3,954
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£87,436
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£315

RAINFALL

The rainfall for 1953 was 26·24 inches, which is a decrease of 3 inches on 1952. The figure can be taken as being representative of the country within 5 miles of the Air Ministry Meteorological Office in Somerford Road, Cirencester.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR BIRTHS

Live Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total ...	137	150	287
Legitimate ...	134	142	276
Illegitimate ...	3	8	11

Birth rate per 1,000 population 16·7 (National figure 15·5).

Still Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total ...	1	2	3
Legitimate ...	1	2	3

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population 0·17 (National figure 0·35).

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live births 10·4.

DEATHS

	M.	F.	Total
Total	76	59	135
<i>Death rate per 1,000 population 7.9 (National figure 11.4).</i>			
<i>No. of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth : Nil.</i>			
<i>Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:</i>			
	M.	F.	Total
Total	8	2	10
Legitimate	8	2	10
<i>Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births 34.8 (National figure 26.8).</i>			
<i>Average age at death due to Natural Causes: 71.5 years.</i>			

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	—	2
" other	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	2	—	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	2	1	3
" " lung, bronchus	4	—	4
" " breast ...	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	7	13
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	8	14
Coronary disease, angina	5	9	14
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	1	2
Other heart disease	5	11	16
Other circulatory disease	4	1	5
Influenza	2	2	4
Pneumonia	4	2	6
Bronchitis	3	6	9
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	2	12
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	8	2	10
Suicide	1	—	1
TOTALS	76	59	135

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Total notifications	Admitted to hospital
Scarlet fever	7	—
Whooping cough	62	2
Poliomyelitis	1	1
Measles	239	—
Pneumonia	18	3
Dysentery	2	—
Chicken Pox	19	—
Malaria (recurring)	1	1
Erysipelas	3	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	2

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases			Deaths		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
10	11	21	3	—	3

Of the 21 new cases (4 were transfers from other districts), 15 were lungs, 2 hip, 1 knee, 2 cervical glands and 1 meninges; 15 were treated in hospital and the rest at home.

Two tuberculosis patients were re-housed during the year.

PROTECTION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Following are the total number of children who completed the two injections for protection against diphtheria during the year :—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
286	59	345

Also during the year 283 children under 15 years of age received a maintenance or reinforcing dose. There were no cases of diphtheria during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No cases arose during the year calling for action under the Act.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies

The scheme for the provision of a public piped water supply to the parishes of Somerford Keynes and Poole Keynes was completed during the year. Ministry approval to the extension of this system to serve the hamlet of Ewen in the Parish of Kemble was received.

Approval to a small scheme to supply the hamlet of Cerney Wick in the Parish of South Cerney was also received.

A local Public Inquiry by an Engineering Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has been held into the proposed Churn Valley Water Supply Scheme.

The site of the boreholes to serve the proposed water scheme covering the eastern part of the area has been selected after taking advice from a Geological Consultant.

The Council's five water undertakings at Lechlade, Poulton, Coates, Marsden and Down Ampney were satisfactorily maintained during the year; the average monthly consumption over the year being 463,500 gallons, 483,500 gallons, 412,500 gallons, 347,500 gallons and 413,000 gallons respectively.

Water Samples

Of 17 water samples taken from public supplies at Lechlade, Poulton, Coates and Marsden, and submitted for analysis, sixteen were satisfactory and one from Marsden not entirely satisfactory.

The following samples were taken from private supplies :—

Source	Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory	Totally Unsatisfactory
Shallow Wells ...	1	2	8
Deep Wells ...	—	—	4
Estate Supplies ...	7	2	12

All unsatisfactory samples were pursued resulting in connection to the public supply in cases where this was possible, and improvement of existing conditions in other cases. Two private supplies are to be chlorinated as the result of advice given.

In addition, eight samples were taken during the year with a view to ensuring that new water mains had been sufficiently sterilized before being brought into use.

Water, 1953

The following table indicates the number of dwellings in separate parishes supplied from public water mains having either a piped indoor supply or a standpipe supply of water :—

	Total No. of Houses in Parish	Piped indoor	Popula- tion	Stand- pipe	Popula- tion
Baunton	52	9	36	—	—
Brimpsfield	68	34	136	—	—
Coates	105	58	232	24	96
Down Ampney	112	54	216	—	—
Driffield	51	28	112	—	—
Duntisbourne Abbots	75	49	196	—	—
Elkstone	64	23	92	—	—
Kempsford	270	88	368	7	28
Lechlade	360	211	844	87	348
Meysey Hampton ...	100	43	199	—	—
North Cerney Woodmancote)	(whole 162 Parish)	52	212	—	—
Poole Keynes	34	—	—	—	—
Poulton	120	109	440	—	—
Preston	81	57	228	—	—
Sapperton	134	88	352	4	16
Siddington	147	62	248	56	224
Somerford Keynes	87	—	—	—	—
South Cerney (and Cerney Wick)	318	143	572	—	—
Syde	12	5	20	—	—
Winstone	54	37	148	—	—

HOUSING

The 425 houses provided by the Council have been augmented by the addition of the following houses which have been completed and occupied during the year :—

Duntisbourne Abbots ...	6 Traditional
Fairford	40 Traditional
Kemble	4 Traditional
	4 Flats

Total number of Council houses completed and occupied at the end of 1953 : 473. This figure takes into account the 6 Council houses sold to tenants during the year.

The following houses are in course of erection :—

Coates	10 Traditional
Down Ampney	52 New Traditional
Fairford	12 Traditional
Sapperton (Frampton Mansell) ...	10 Traditional
Winstone	6 Traditional

Private Houses

During the year the following fourteen houses were erected under licence :—

Baunton	3
Brimpsfield	2
Coates	1
Fairford	5
Lechlade	1
South Cerney	1
Winstone	1

Licences for the erection of private houses were issued, as under :—

Bagendon	1
Brimpsfield	1
Down Ampney	2
Fairford	1
Lechlade	3
Poole Keynes	1
Poulton	1
Quenington	1
South Cerney	1

Permanent Houses

To summarise, sixty-eight permanent houses have been completed with one hundred and two more in course of construction.

Moveable Dwellings

Eleven new licences were issued during the year under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269, for the use of land as a site for moveable dwellings. In addition, twenty existing licences were renewed.

Routine supervision has been exercised with particular attention to sanitary conditions, and all sites have been maintained free of nuisance.

Sewerage and Drainage

With the exception of minor works the sewerage scheme to serve the Parish of Lechlade was completed. The sewage disposal works was brought into operation and a number of connections made during the year.

Schemes for the installation of sewage disposal facilities for the Parishes of Fairford and South Cerney are still awaiting final approval from the Ministry.

Cleansing of the sewage outfalls at Ampney St. Peter, Kempsford, Lechlade, Barnsley, North Cerney and Poulton was carried out by contract, a mechanical emptier being used.

Routine measures have been taken for the destruction of rats in the Fairford sewers.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Refuse collection was carried out throughout the district by contract.

A considerable area of land was reclaimed at Sunhill by controlled tipping in a stone quarry. Following the removal of the stone, refuse is tipped into the space so formed and

covered with the topsoil from the next area to be quarried. So reclamation takes place progressively as quarrying proceeds.

The controlled tip at South Cerney has been maintained free of nuisance and frequent disinfestation has been undertaken to keep all tips free from rats and other pests.

Rats and Mice Destruction

Duties under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, have been carried out throughout the year by a part-time Rodent Operator.

177 farms have been inspected, 481 dwelling houses and 87 business premises. In addition to Council property, treatments have been carried out at 61 dwelling houses and 5 business premises.

New Buildings

Plans in respect of the following work were submitted to the Council for approval :—

New houses	30
Additions and alterations to existing houses	52
Conversion of houses into smaller houses, etc.	2
Conversion of other buildings into houses, etc.	1
Erection of workshops, sheds, etc.	13
Installation or improvement of drainage	32
Erection of garages	30
Erection of agricultural buildings	13
Additions and alterations to agricultural buildings	5
Erection of canteens, kitchens, etc.	2
Alterations to school buildings	3
Extension of gravel workings, quarries, etc.	1
New petrol installations	2
New and altered vehicular access	10
Alterations and additions to licensed premises	6
Change of user	2
Alterations to shops	1
Bus shelters	3
Erection of signs, sign boards, etc.	4
Erection of Church halls, village halls, etc.	2

Building Licences

Eleven building licences to the value of £8,648 for repair, maintenance and improvement of dwelling houses were issued during the year, together with seven amounting to £4,777 for conversion and adaptation of buildings for habitation, providing three additional units of accommodation.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

During the year, ten licences under the above-mentioned Act were issued for the slaughter of animals.

Milk and Dairies Regulations

There are three dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, and nine persons registered as Distributors of Milk.

Eight samples of milk were taken for biological examination and the result in each case was negative.

Nineteen visits were made to distributors and dairies during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The following summary gives the number of food premises in the area by type of business :—

Grocery and General Provision Stores ...	47
Bakeries	7
Cafes	6
Cake Shops	2
Fish Shops	1
Butchers	5
Greengrocers	4
Mobile Shops	2
Licensed Premises (serving food) ...	15
Egg Packing Stations	1
	—
Total ...	90
	—

Twenty-three premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream and four premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages or preserved food. There are no manufacturers of ice cream.

Fifty-three visits were made to food premises during the year, including twenty-seven visits to registered premises. In eight cases where contraventions had been found, the premises were raised to a satisfactory standard by informal action.

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district.

Meat and Other Foods (Unsound Food)

5 lbs. part bovine forequarter
9½ lbs. part bovine hindquarter
5 lbs. 7 ozs. bovine liver
33 lbs. (total weight) 6 ducks
2 lbs. 15½ ozs. tinned stewed steak
3 lbs. 4 ozs. tinned minced beef loaf
1 lb. 8 ozs. tinned corned beef
6 lbs. tinned corned beef with cereal
8 lbs. 12 ozs. tinned pork luncheon meat
16 ozs. tinned steak and mutton (with gravy)
8 lbs. 6 ozs. tinned jellied veal
1 lb. 7¼ ozs. tinned salmon
14½ ozs. tinned evaporated milk
28⅞ pints tinned unsweetened condensed milk
1¾ pints tinned sweetened condensed milk
1 lb. 3 ozs. tinned processed peas
36 lbs. 4½ ozs. tinned victoria plums
36 lbs. 15 ozs. tinned cherries
5 lbs. 7 ozs. tinned peaches
4 lbs. 12 ozs. tinned purple plums
5 lbs. tinned oranges

Disposal

Condemned meat is returned to the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Cirencester.

Condemned canned goods and other food is disposed of under supervision at one of the Council's Controlled Refuse Tips.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	525
Sewerage	...	...	...	...	...	227
Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	82
Building	...	...	...	...	...	546
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	19
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	395
Housing	...	...	...	...	...	344
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	121
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	63
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	7
Food premises	...	...	...	...	...	53
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	81
Water samples	...	...	...	...	...	44
Nuisances found	...	...	...	...	...	21
Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	21
Unsound food	...	...	...	...	...	15
Council house inspections	...	...	...	...	...	314
Petroleum Act	...	...	...	...	...	139
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	80
Pests Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	879

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES	No. on register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	5	Nil	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	39	58	Nil	Nil
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	16	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	51	79	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which pros. were instituted
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	6	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to out-work)	3	3	Nil	1	Nil
TOTAL	12	11	Nil	1	Nil

Northleach Rural District Council

STAFF

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. A. S. Green, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor.

Mr. G. J. Green, General Assistant.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	74,912
Population (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	7,761
„ (Registrar General 1953)	...	...	...	...	8,679
Number of inhabited houses (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	2,212
„ „ (end of 1953)	...	...	...	...	2,455
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£39,714
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£154

RAINFALL

The rainfall for 1953 was 24.34 inches as compared with 26.06 inches for 1952, thus giving a decrease of 1.72 inches.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTHS

Live Births :		M.	F.	Total
Total	...	83	81	164
Legitimate	...	74	75	149
Illegitimate	...	9	6	15

Birth rate per 1,000 population 18.8 (National figure 15.5).

Still Births :		M.	F.	Total
Total	...	2	1	3
Legitimate	...	2	1	3

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population 0.34 (National figure 0.35).

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live births 18.29.

DEATHS

	M.	F.	Total
Total	43	60	103

Death rate per 1,000 population 11.86 (National figure 11.4).

No. of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth : Nil.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	M.	F.	Total
Total	2	—	2
Legitimate	2	—	2

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births 12.2 (National figure 26.8).

Average age at death due to Natural Causes: 75.25 years.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	—	2	2
" lung, bronchus	—	1	1
" breast ...	—	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	4	8
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	15	24
Coronary disease, angina	5	7	12
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	—	1
Other heart disease	6	12	18
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	—	1	1
Bronchitis	2	4	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	—	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	5
Congenital malformations	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	2	4
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	—	1	1
Suicide	1	—	1
TOTALS	43	60	103

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Total notifications	Admitted to hospital
Scarlet fever	4	—
Whooping cough	3	—
Measles	264	—
Pneumonia	4	—
Erysipelas	3	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases			Deaths		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1	6	7	1	—	1

Of the 7 new cases (1 was a transfer), 4 were pulmonary, 1 hilar glands, 1 meninges, 1 endometrium; 6 were treated in hospital (1 of whom died) and 1 received treatment at home. No tuberculosis patients were re-housed during the year.

PROTECTION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The number of children who completed the two injections for protection against diphtheria during 1953 are as follows:—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
80	13	93

Also during the year 79 children under 15 years of age received a maintenance or reinforcing dose.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No cases arose during the year calling for action under the Act.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies

The first stage of the comprehensive water scheme was completed during the year and serves the parishes of Ship-ton, Sevenhampton, Salperton, Notgrove and Cold Aston.

Connections to the mains were carried out by direct labour and taken to the curtilage of the property. The second stage of the comprehensive water scheme is ready to commence main laying as soon as starting date is given by the Ministry.

Private supplies feeding farms are gradually being improved as farmers are beginning to take advantage of the grant available under the County Agricultural Scheme.

Water Resources and Supplies to each Parish

Parish	No. of houses on comprehensive scheme	Houses on other supplies	No. of houses	Source
Aston Blank ...	15	15	62	Wells, springs, main
Aldsworth ...	—	58	64	Springs
Bibury ...	—	150	172	Springs
Barrington ...	—	110	131	Wells and springs
Chedworth ...	—	50	193	Wells and springs
Compton Abdale ...	—	16	25	Springs
Coln St. Aldwyns	—	84	84	Filtered river water
Coln St. Dennis ...	—	63	73	Wells and springs
Dowdeswell ...	—	81	102	Springs
Eastington ...	—	40	63	Springs
Eastleach ...	—	80	112	Springs
Farmington ...	—	30	46	Springs
Hampnett ...	—	15	30	Springs
Haselton (Farms) 3	3	26	46	Wells, springs, main
Northleach ...	—	179	187	Springs, public supply
Notgrove ...	—	30	39	Springs, main
Sevenhampton ...	36	32	104	Springs, main
Sherborne ...	—	58	118	Springs
Southrop ...	—	20	64	Wells, springs
Shipton ...	14	27	81	Wells, springs, main
Turkdean ...	—	27	32	Springs
Withington ...	—	135	137	Springs
Whittington ...	—	50	56	Springs
Windrush ...	—	25	50	Springs
Winson ...	—	18	28	Springs
Yanworth ...	—	25	25	Springs

Water Samples

During the year, seven samples of water were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination, with the following results :—

Parish	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Fairly satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Withington ...	2	1	—	1
Turkdean ...	1	1	—	—
Eastleach ...	1	—	1	—
Yanworth ...	1	—	1	—
Chedworth ...	1	1	—	—
Hampnett ...	1	—	1	—

Unsatisfactory supplies were investigated and recommendations made for improvement.

Sewage and Sewage Disposal Works

The Northleach sewage scheme which was completed in March, 1952 continues to work satisfactorily and at the end of the year a total of 136 properties had been connected since the commencement of the scheme.

Smaller sewage works are situated at Withington, Andoversford, Court Field, Northleach, Bibury Camp, Windrush Camp and Stowell Park Camp. All are working satisfactorily.

Refuse Collection

Collection is fortnightly with the exception of Northleach, which has a weekly collection. Collection is by direct labour.

Salvage Collections (Waste Paper)

The amount of waste paper collected and disposed of during the year was 19 tons 1 cwt. This is collected by the refuse men on their rounds and disposed of to the paper merchants once a month.

River Pollution

The Thames Conservancy Inspectors made frequent visits to the rivers and streams under their jurisdiction in the area, but no complaints were received.

Inspections

During the year the following inspections were carried out :—

Premises	No. on register	No. inspected	Total number of inspections
Butchers' premises ...	5	5	61
Dairies and cowsheds	18	18	36
Bakehouses	7	7	46
Food shops	37	37	131

No slaughtering takes place within the Rural District.

One butcher's premises closed down during the year.

There are fifteen premises registered for the sale of ice cream, including one for the manufacture of ice cream.

The total number of shops in the area is 52—general stores 24, sweet shops 7, butchers 5, cafés 8, hotels 8.

During the year the following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

1 lb. 15½ ozs. tinned stewed steak
8 lbs. tinned luncheon meat
2 pints evaporated milk
48 lbs. tinned damsons

Rats and Mice Destruction (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

One Operator is employed for the inspection of premises and destruction of rats and mice. The area is fairly free from pests. Area meetings are attended by the Operator and Sanitary Inspector.

During the year the following inspections and treatments were carried out :—

Type of premises	Inspections	Treatments
Private premises	2281	41
Business premises	120	20
Farms	331	14
Refuse tips (6)	91	25
Council property	12	7

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928

There are 64 premises throughout the area licensed to store petroleum spirit, all premises were inspected and found satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES	No. on register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	51	1	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	51	51	1	Nil

2. **Cases in which defects were found :** 1—Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient.

Out-work (Sections 110 and 111): Nil.

Housing Generally

During the year seven complaints were received regarding house property. These were investigated and remedied.

Council Houses

During the year 28 Council houses were completed, as follows :—Aldsworth 2, Northleach 4, Notgrove 4, Turkdean 2, Withington 16. The total number of houses erected and owned by the Local Authority is 154, as follows :—

T.R.D.C.
N.U.D.C.
S.U.D.C.
S.R.D.C.

Aldsworth	...	...	...	6	Northleach	...	...	...	44
Bibury	...	...	...	8	Notgrove	...	...	...	6
Chedworth	...	...	...	12	Sevenhampton	...	...	...	6
Compton Abdale	...	...	...	4	Whittington	...	...	...	4
Dowdeswell	...	...	...	22	Withington (including Clock				
Southrop	...	...	...	4	House Square)	...	...	...	32
Turkdean	...	...	...	6					

Camp Sites (controlled by the Local Authority)

Windrush Camp	...	...	...	50 families
Whittington Court	...	...	...	15 „
Chedworth	...	...	...	4 „
Stowell Park	...	...	...	32 „
Court Field, Northleach	...	...	...	6 „
Bibury	...	...	...	24 „

Private Enterprise Houses

During the year ten private enterprise houses were completed, as follows :—Brockhampton 1, Bibury 2, Chedworth 2, Sherborne 1, Withington 4.

Building Bye-laws

During the year a total of 120 plans were submitted for consideration, as follows :—private dwellings 15, bungalows 4, conversions 8, additions 9, alterations 22, agricultural buildings 14, private garages 8, sundry 40.

Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949

Three applications involving 7 cottages were approved by the Council and sanctioned by the Ministry during 1953, as follows :—

Notgrove	...	5 cottages	Salperton	...	2 cottages
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Tetbury Rural District Council

STAFF

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. J. Gibbons, Cert.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor.

Mr. G. E. Brown, Pupil Assistant.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	31,799
Population (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	5,732
„ (Registrar General 1953)	...	...	...	...	7,005
Number of inhabited houses (1931 census)	...	...	...	...	1,664
„ „ (end of 1953)	...	...	...	...	1,914
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£31,692
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£131

RAINFALL

The rainfall for 1953 was 27·28 inches as compared with 32·93 inches for 1952, thus showing a decrease of 5·65 inches.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTHS

Live Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total	63	54	117
Legitimate	61	53	114
Illegitimate	2	1	3

Birth rate per 1,000 population 16·7 (National figure 15·5).

Still Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total	—	—	—

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population Nil (National figure 0·35).

DEATHS

	M.	F.	Total
Total	35	27	62

Death rate per 1,000 population 8.85 (National figure 11.4).

No. of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth : Nil.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	M.	F.	Total
Total	1	—	1
Legitimate	1	—	1

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births 8.5 (National figure 26.8).

Average age at death due to Natural Causes: 62.5 years.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	—	2
" lung, bronchus	3	—	3
" breast	—	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	1	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	8	10
Coronary disease, angina	5	2	7
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	1	3
Other heart disease	9	5	14
Other circulatory disease	1	1	2
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	—	1
Accidents (except motor vehicles) ...	2	—	2
TOTALS	35	27	62

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Total notifications	Admitted to hospital
Scarlet fever	3	1
Whooping cough	11	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1
Measles	55	—
Pneumonia	6	2
Erysipelas	4	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases			Deaths		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
3	1	4	1	—	1

The 4 new cases were all pulmonary (1 being a transfer from another district). Three were given hospital treatment and 1 was treated at home. One tuberculous patient was re-housed during the year.

PROTECTION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The following are the total number of children who completed the two injections for protection against diphtheria during 1953 :—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
58	4	62

Also during the year 18 children under 15 years of age received a maintenance or reinforcing dose. There were no cases of diphtheria during the year.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No cases arose during the year calling for action under this Act.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies

Tetbury and Tetbury Upton: The supply to these parishes has been maintained during the year. 1,100 yards of 6 in. reinforcing main from the waterworks to Northfield was laid during the year and the supply in Tetbury has been greatly improved, particularly with regard to pressure. The installation of the reinforcing main has enabled the Council to carry out two further extensions into the parish of Tetbury Upton during the year. Some 433 yards of 3 in. cast iron main were laid to supply the Twelve Acres area and 2,060 yards of 4 in. cast iron main to the hamlet of Doughton.

Some $40\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons of water were pumped from the two boreholes at the Tetbury waterworks. $28\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons were supplied to Tetbury, Twelve Acres and Doughton, giving an average daily consumption of 79,000 gallons, equal to 27 gallons per head of the population. The remaining 12 million gallons were pumped to the Babdown reservoir in the parish of Beverston, including the Polish Hostel, and Calcot in the parish of Kingscote. The average daily consumption of the Polish Hostel was 19,000, whilst the other supplies accounted for an average daily consumption of 13,000 gallons.

New connections to the Council's mains amounted to 89 during the year.

19 samples were taken from the boreholes and the supply mains, 18 of which were satisfactory and 1 unsatisfactory.

Avening and Cherington: These parishes are supplied by the Stroud Water Board and 35 new connections were made to the mains during the year. Three samples from private supplies were taken, all of which were unsatisfactory.

Leighterton: The scheme for the supply to this parish, by the West Glos. Water Co., from Didmarton, has not yet commenced. Pipes have been delivered and the supply should be available by the end of next year.

Kingscote: Investigations are continuing regarding the existing supplies in this parish and negotiations are taking place between the Council's Consulting Engineers and the owner of the largest of the private supplies in the parish. 3 samples were taken from private supplies during the year, 2 of which were unsatisfactory.

Remaining Parishes: The supply in these parishes remains unchanged.

During the year 1182 inspections were made and 43 samples were taken for analysis.

Sewage and Drainage

Tetbury: New connections to the Council's sewers in this parish amounted to 57 during the year.

Avening: The new sewage scheme for this parish was commenced during the year. Satisfactory progress has been made and it is hoped that the scheme will be in operation early in the new year.

During the year 308 inspections were made in connection with sewage and drainage.

Public Cleansing

House refuse was collected from all 13 parishes fortnightly with the exception of Avening, Tetbury and Babdown Polish Hostel, where a weekly collection was carried out.

The Council ordered a new Karrier 16 cu. yd. refuse vehicle for delivery early in the new year.

353 inspections were carried out in connection with public cleansing.

River Pollution

The only case reported during the year was from the Bristol Avon River Board in respect of the effluent from Tetbury sewage disposal works. The Council have requested their Consulting Engineers to make a report on the works for their consideration.

Housing

During the year 54 inspections were made in connection with dwelling houses, and 23 informal and 1 statutory notices were served under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

Council Houses

During the year 56 Council houses were completed, as follows :—

Tetbury ...	...	...	20 New Traditional
			20 Traditional
Avening ...	...	...	16 Traditional
			—
Total ...			56
			—

The Council now have 272 houses, 180 of which have been built post-war.

Additional land has been acquired in Tetbury and tenders invited for a further 37 new traditional houses and flats for this site, and a further 6 houses on the existing site at Avening.

During the year 12 pre-war houses at Avening and 12 pre-war houses at Tetbury have been improved by the provision of bathrooms, hot water systems, etc., to bring them up to modern standards.

In connection with the maintenance of Council houses, 654 inspections have been carried out during the year.

13 families living in temporary dwellings at Long Newnton and Babdown have been re-housed in permanent houses during the year and 13 temporary dwellings have been demolished.

During the year 305 inspections were made in connection with the maintenance of the dwellings together with the maintenance and operation of the water supply and drainage services on these two sites.

New Buildings

Plans submitted for approval under the Council's building bye-laws amounted to 61 during the year, including 20 new dwellings, 6 conversions, 22 alterations and additions and 13 miscellaneous.

Some 696 visits were made in connection with new building works.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The number of treatments carried out during the year amounted to 41, and inspections 130. Systematic treatment of the Council's refuse tips, sewers, etc., was carried out.

Meat, Milk and Other Foods

There are no Government Slaughterhouses in the district.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district.

There are 71 food premises in the district, of the following types :—

6 Cafés
22 Grocery shops
10 Confectionery shops
2 Greengrocery shops
3 Butchers' shops
3 Bakers' shops
2 Fried fish shops
1 Dairy
22 Public Houses

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Milk and Dairies Regulations, are as follows :—

Premises for storage and sale of ice cream	...	...	18
Premises for manufacture of preserved foods	...	...	4
Dairy premises	...	...	1
Number of inspections of registered premises	...	...	21
Number of inspections of other food premises	...	...	26
Number of milk samples taken	...	...	22

The following foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—Tinned foods, 313 tins; Meat, Fish, etc., 1 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lbs.

Condemned meat is returned to the Government Slaughterhouse Authority for disposal, and the other foods are buried on the Council's refuse disposal tip.

Inspections and Visits carried out during the year

House refuse and salvage collection	...	...	353
Public Health inspections	...	...	231
Sewerage and drainage	...	...	308
Council house repair and maintenance	...	...	654
Temporary housing	...	...	305
Building, including licensing	...	...	696
Water supply	...	...	1182
Housing (Public Health and Housing Acts)	...	...	54
Food and Drugs Act and Milk and Dairies Regulations	...	...	47
Factories and workshops	...	...	34
Miscellaneous	...	...	106

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspector).

PREMISES	No. on register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	6	Nil	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	21	25	1	Nil
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	3	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	27	34	1	Nil

Cases in which defects were found : 1.

Number of out-workers : 1.

Nailsworth Urban District Council

STAFF

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

T. Wood, M.I.Mun.E., M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	1,596
Population (1951 census)	...	...	...	...	3,523
„ (Registrar General 1953)	...	...	...	...	3,638
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953)	...	...	...	...	1,150
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£16,856
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£66

RAINFALL

The rainfall for the year was 29.51 inches. The figure is the annual total of rainfall for the nearest rainfall station.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTHS

Live Births :			M.	F.	Total
Total	...	...	29	17	46
Legitimate	...	...	28	17	45
Illegitimate	...	...	1	—	1

Birth rate per 1,000 population 13.53 (National figure 15.5).

Still Births :			M.	F.	Total
Total	...	...	—	—	—

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population Nil (National figure 0.35).

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live births Nil.

DEATHS

			M.	F.	Total
Total	...	...	15	24	39

Death rate per 1,000 population 8.79 (National figure 11.4).

N.U.D.C.

S.U.D.C.

S.B.D.C.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	M.	F.	Total
Total	—	—	—

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births Nil (National figure 26·8).

Average age at death due to Natural Causes: 74·1 years.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	3	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	2	2
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	2	4
Coronary disease, angina	1	6	7
Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	—	1
Other heart disease	2	5	7
Pneumonia	—	2	2
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	2	3
All other accidents	1	—	1
TOTALS	15	24	39

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Total notifications	Admitted to hospital
Scarlet fever	2	—
Whooping cough	56	—
Measles	6	—
Pneumonia	4	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases			Deaths		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
2	—	2	1	—	1

The two cases were pulmonary, and admitted to hospital.

PROTECTION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The following are the total number of children who completed the two injections for protection against diphtheria during the year :—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
53	4	57

Also during the year 59 children under 15 years received a maintenance or reinforcing dose.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

There were no cases during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies

The district is supplied with water by the Stroud District Water Board. Samples were taken monthly and upon analysis proved to be entirely satisfactory.

Housing

During the year 24 Council houses were completed. The number of houses erected by private enterprise was 5, and a further 8 in course of construction.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections and Visits made during the year

Houses and premises inspected under the Housing and Public Health Acts	25
Re-inspection of premises	15
Miscellaneous visits to :	
Food Shops	80
Slaughterhouses	340
Cafés and restaurants	8
Premises, including ice cream premises (Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938)	30
Shops and offices inspected	15
Visits to dairies and milk shops	25
„ „ bakehouses	4
„ „ theatres, cinemas and places of entertainment ...	3
„ „ petroleum stores	32
Shops inspected under the Shops Act, 1934	15

Food Preparing Premises

6 visits were made to the 2 bakehouses and no defects were found.

Food Premises under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938

20 visits were made to the 8 registered premises.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951

No additional applications for registration were received during the year, and the two premises already registered were visited and found to be well conducted.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The following summary gives details of work carried out during the year :—

	Visits	Baits laid	Poison baits laid
Sewers	64	32	—
Business firms with agreements ...	204	311	213
Business firms without agreements	22	173	30
Private dwellings	243	365	146
Miscellaneous	100	403	30
TOTALS	633	1284	419

Smoke Abatement

Observations made	...	...	...	2
Number of notices served	...	...	...	Nil

Caravans and Moveable Dwellings

4 sites were in use during the year, 5 vans being occupied. All had chemical closets and a piped water supply.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 58

The Council took action against the owner of 2 cottages at Windsor Edge. An Order for their Demolition was granted and subsequently carried out.

Building Bye-laws

New Building Bye-laws based on the Model Series IV Buildings, issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, were adopted by the Council and approved by the Ministry. They became operative on the 21st November, 1953.

Collection and Disposal of Refuse

All house refuse is collected by arrangement with the Stroud Rural District Council, and is disposed of by that Authority, their tips being outside this Council's area.

Meat and Other Foods

Two bacon factories were in use for the slaughtering of pigs for human consumption. There are no private slaughter-houses in use, all fresh meat being slaughtered in an adjoining district and conveyed by vans into the area.

The number of pigs slaughtered during 1953 shows a slight decrease over the previous year. This is attributable to the fact that one factory was out of commission for six months due to reconstruction and alterations being carried out.

Number of pigs killed: 61,114; this being 2,044 less than in 1952.

All were inspected, but 11,510 were given special examination.

All Diseases except Tuberculosis

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...	96
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...					298
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	0.645%
Dead on arrival and condemned	...	...	...	...	...	23

All animals are conveyed to the factory by road transport, and many are brought long distances.

Any animals found dead on arrival are isolated pending inspection by a veterinary surgeon. No cases of death from infectious or contagious disease were reported during the year.

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...					3,010
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	...					4.94%

Other Foods

Visits have been made to the food shops in the district to ensure that the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act are being carried out.

A large number of tinned goods were inspected, the following being condemned : 49 tins of imported hams and shoulders, 54 tins of imported ox tongues, 149 tins of imported luncheon meat, and 1,250 tins and packages of miscellaneous foodstuffs (soups, tomatoes, fruit and fish).

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

PREMISES	No. on register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	23	30	2	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	1	1	Nil	Nil
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	1	3	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	25	34	2	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which pros. were instituted
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

Out-work (Section 110): Nil.

Stroud Urban District Council

STAFF

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

G. G. Critchley, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector.

D. A. Dolphin, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., First Additional Sanitary Inspector.

L. G. Norman, M.S.I.A., S.R.N., Second Additional Sanitary Inspector.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	2,779
Population (1951 census)	...	...	...	15,977
„ (Registrar General 1953)	...	...	...	16,020
Estimated number of inhabited houses (end of 1953)				4,890
Rateable value (as at 1/4/53)	...	...	...	£95,030
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£381

RAINFALL

The rainfall for the year was 21·85 inches. The figure is the annual total of rainfall for the nearest rainfall station.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTHS

Live Births :				M.	F.	Total
Total	...	...	...	120	104	224
Legitimate	...	...	...	112	99	211
Illegitimate	...	...	...	8	5	13

Birth rate per 1,000 population 14·4 (National figure 15·5).

Still Births :				M.	F.	Total
Total	...	...	...	1	5	6
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	5	6

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population 0·37 (National figure 0·35).

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live births 26·78.

DEATHS

	M.	F.	Total
Total	89	81	170

Death rate per 1,000 population 9.02 (National figure 11.4).

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	M.	F.	Total
Total	1	—	1
Legitimate	1	—	1

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births 4.47 (National figure 26.8).

Average age at death due to Natural Causes: 69.81 years.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory'	2	2	4
" other	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	1	1	2
Diphtheria	—	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
" lung, bronchus	3	2	5
" breast	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	10	18
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	12	22
Coronary disease, angina	14	6	20
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	2	4
Other heart disease	20	25	45
Other circulatory disease	3	1	4
Influenza	3	7	10
Pneumonia	—	1	1
Bronchitis	6	2	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	3	4
Motor vehicle accidents	2	—	2
All other accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	1	—	1
TOTALS	89	81	170

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Total notifications	Admitted to hospital
Scarlet fever	10	1
Whooping cough	24	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1
Measles	262	—
Pneumonia	6	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases			Deaths		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
8	11	19	3	2	5

Of the 19 new cases, 17 were pulmonary, 1 humerus and 1 meninges; 11 cases were admitted to Standish House, 2 to other hospitals; and 6 were treated at home. The Mass Radiography Unit again visited Stroud, mid-July. Seven tuberculous patients were re-housed during the year.

PROTECTION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The following are the total number of children who completed the two injections for protection against diphtheria during the year :—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
132	5	137

Also during the year 182 children under 15 years received a maintenance or reinforcing dose.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

There were no cases during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply Analysis

Samples of water from the town supplies, swimming pools and wells, were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis, with the following results :—

Type of Sample	No. of samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Main Supply	19	19	Nil
Main Swimming Pool ...	4	4	Nil
Children's Swimming Pool	5	5	Nil
Wells and Springs ...	5	1	4

In all cases of unsatisfactory wells and springs, successful steps were taken to obtain the provision of a main supply.

Sewerage

The new sewerage disposal works at Stanley Downton continue to function satisfactorily and sewage is receiving full treatment before discharge into the River Frome. Average daily flow is 2 million gallons.

The main trunk sewer is now complete and is connected with lengths previously laid by the adjoining Rural Council. The old sewerage works at Canalside have now been entirely dispensed with and tanks are gradually being filled with refuse.

Some progress has been made during the year with regard to the treatment of trade effluents into the new sewerage system, and it is eventually to be hoped that the majority of factories will use this method, rather than discharging their wastes into the adjoining streams. Charges are made for discharging treated effluents into the sewers.

The area of the district remaining unsewered includes part of Bowbridge, Cainscross Road, Callowell and Westrip.

Building of New Council and Private Enterprise Houses

No. of Council houses erected, 1953	96
No. of private enterprise houses erected, 1953	18
Total	114
No. of Council houses under construction, 31/12/53 ...	46
No. of private enterprise houses under construction, 31/12/53	16
Total	62

Summary of Inspections and Visits made during the year

Dwelling houses inspected under the Housing Act and Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	689
Re-inspections of houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	291
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	241
Visits under Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Visits to slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,872
„ „ food shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
„ „ cafés and restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
„ „ licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ „ premises including ice cream premises (Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938)	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Shops inspected under the Shops Act, 1934	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Visits to dairies, milkshops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
„ „ factories and bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	175
„ „ theatres, cinemas, places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ „ schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
„ „ water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
„ re. drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	515
„ to petroleum stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
<i>Total number of visits and inspections</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,380
<i>Total number of visits and inspections in connection with rodent control</i>	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,672

All complaints received of unhygienic conditions were duly investigated and the necessary action taken to abate any nuisances found.

Premises or Occupations subject to Statutory Control Shops

Number of premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	49

Particulars of action taken during the year

1. Under Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences.

Number of notices served	4
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2. Under Public Health Act, 1936.

Number of notices served	2
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Food Premises under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938

Number of premises registered	69
New registrations during 1953	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	91
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	4

Offensive Trades

Number of premises	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Petroleum Stores

Number of premises	...	...	...	...	...	70
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	63
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	12

Dairies and Milk Shops

Number of premises	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	41
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	1

Smoke Abatement

Observations made	...	...	...	...	...	11
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	2

Inspections of Premises in respect of Council House Applications

Number of visits	477
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Housing Act, 1936, and Public Health Act, 1936

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Public Health and Housing Acts)	689
Number of inspections and re-inspections made	...	...	980
Number of dwelling houses found to be in such a state as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	13
Number of dwelling houses found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	83

Informal Action during the year

Number of houses made fit after service of informal or preliminary notices	75
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices (including notices served prior to 1st January, 1953) :	
(i) By owners	Nil
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(b) *Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(i) By owners	1
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(c) *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted	13

(d) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Rodent Control — Figures for 1953

	Visits	Baits laid	Poison baits laid
Sewers	258	172	59
Local Authority properties ...	52	403	263
Business firms with agreements ...	865	2247	554
Business firms without agreements	274	1785	958
Private dwellings	1159	2452	760
Miscellaneous	64	281	49
TOTALS	2672	7340	2643

Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection

The Council's Abattoir and Messrs. Smith Rogers bacon factory were in use for the slaughtering of animals for human consumption during the year.

Wherever possible ante-mortem inspection of animals awaiting slaughter was carried out, particularly in the case of casualty animals brought direct to the slaughterhouse.

The following are details of post-mortem examinations made :—

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	2310	764	1314	11680	33217
No. inspected	2310	764	1314	11680	33217
<i>All diseases except T.B.—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	13	12	71	142
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	754	475	8	1569	1758
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	33.03	63.87	1.52	14.04	5.72
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	17	—	—	43
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	134	123	—	—	1300
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	6.19	18.32	—	—	4.04

Total weight of meat and organs (offal) condemned as unfit for human consumption : 49 tons 7 cwts.

The reduction in the percentage of cows inspected affected with Tuberculosis is worthy of note :—

1949	...	...	40.80%
1950	...	...	37.42%
1951	...	...	28.75%
1952	...	...	19.05%
1953	...	...	18.32%

The following details indicate some of the diseases, other than Tuberculosis, affecting animals slaughtered and examined at the Abattoir :—

Cattle—

Actinobacillosis	Uraemia
Septicaemia	Dropsy
Cysticercus Bovis	Nephritis
Pyæmia	Enteritis
Melanosis	

Calves—

Immaturity	Umbilical Pyæmia
Enteritis	

Sheep—

Toxaemia	Pyæmia
Septicaemia	Cysticercus Ovis

Pigs—

Acute Swine Erysipelas
Gangrenous Pneumonia
Bowel Oedema

Cysticercus Bovis

The following table gives details of all animals found to be suffering from cysticercus bovis during the year, and parts of the animal affected :—

			Number slaughtered	Number affected	Percentage affected
Steers	...	...	940	34	3.62%
Heifers	...	...	1328	40	3.01%
Bulls	...	...	42	1	2.38%
Cows	...	...	764	5	0.65%
TOTALS			3074	80	2.60%

Comparative Percentages for the last three years:

1951	...	...	3.78%
1952	...	...	2.89%
1953	...	...	2.60%

Sites of Cysticerci				No. of Cases	No. of Cysticerci found <i>Viable</i> <i>Degenerate</i>	
Generalised	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil
Masseter Muscles (Inner)	...			4	2	2
Masseter Muscles (Inner) and Heart	...	...	...	1	1	1
Masseter Muscles (Outer)	...			34	25	8
Masseter Muscles (Outer) and Heart	...	...	...	10	14	8
Masseter Muscles (Outer) and Masseter Muscles (Inner)	...			2	2	2
Heart	...	...	...	25	5	24
Tongue	...	...	...	2	2	Nil
Masseter Muscles (Outer) and Tongue	...	...	...	2	2	2

Dairies and Milk Retailers

There are 9 dairies other than farm dairies in the district. 41 visits have been made to ensure that the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Orders and Regulations have been complied with.

There are on the register 27 retail purveyors of milk, 19 having premises in the Urban District.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949—Regulation 20

No action was taken during the year under this Regulation.

Milk Sampling : Biological Examination

Eight samples were taken and submitted for animal inoculation to indicate the presence or absence of tubercle bacilli. All proved negative.

Bacteriological Examination

Tuberculin Tested Milk. Forty-four samples of tuberculin tested milk were submitted for bacteriological analysis. Of these, only 1 failed to satisfy the official test and was the subject of a joint investigation with the County Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Pasteurised Milk. Twelve samples of pasteurised milk have been taken, 10 satisfying the standard tests and 2 failing. The 2 failures were notified to the County Health Department, whose officers checked the plants concerned.

Bottle Rinses. Nine bottle rinse samples were taken, 1 only proving to be unsatisfactory.

Informal Compositional Sampling

Eight samples have been taken, 7 being above the standard of 3% fat content required by the Sale of Milk Regulations.

Ice Cream

Eleven samples were submitted for analysis, the results being as follows :—

	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Number of samples	... 3	7	Nil	1

The sample placed in Category 4 was manufactured outside the district, immediate notification of the result being sent to the appropriate Health Department.

There are 6 firms registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream, and 48 registered for the storage and sale only of ice cream.

Food Hygiene

The attention of several food traders was drawn to infringements of the Food Byelaws. No legal action was necessary.

Other Foods

The food shops in the town have been visited as often as possible to ensure that the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act are being carried out, and the following quantities of food have been condemned during the year :—

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38 lbs.
Ham (407 lbs.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35 tins
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	195 lbs.
Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42 lbs.
Cooked Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75 lbs.
Faggots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18 lbs.
Meat Pies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Assorted meat products	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	459 tins
Wet fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 stone
Fish cakes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Assorted fish products	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58 tins
Fruit and preserves	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1872 tins and jars
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	587 tins
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	189 tins
Cereals, sweetened foods, soups, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	251 tins and pkts.
flavouring compounds,								
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65 lbs.
Fats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 lbs.
Dried fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 lbs.
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 lbs.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

PREMISES	No. on register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	34	49	2	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	139	126	10	Nil
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	173	175	12	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which pros. were instituted
Want of					
Cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowd'g (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable					
Temperature (S.3)	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
Inadequate					
Ventilation (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient	6	5	Nil	2	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
TOTAL	12	11	Nil	4	Nil

Outwork. Section 110

NATURE OF WORK	No. of Outworkers in August list reqd. by Sec. 110(1) (c) (3)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists
Wearing apparel : Making, etc.	7	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	7	Nil	Nil

Means of Escape in Case of Fire

Number of visits ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	29
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	4

Stroud Rural District Council

STAFF

Dr. W. Davidson-Lamb, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

D. E. Whittaker, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

H. F. Critchley, A.M.Inst.S.E., M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., Assistant Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

M. E. Fletcher, General Assistant.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	35,038
Population (1951 census)	...	...	...	...	26,336
„ (Registrar General 1953)	...	...	...	...	27,150
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953)	...	...	...	...	7,152
Rateable value	...	...	...	£132,747/10/-	
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£534

RAINFALL

The average rainfall for the year was 28·4 inches. The figure is the average of the annual totals of rainfall for the several rainfall stations in the district.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

BIRTHS

Live Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total	213	190	403
Legitimate	206	182	388
Illegitimate	7	8	15

Birth rate per 1,000 population 15·59 (National figure 15·5).

Still Births :	M.	F.	Total
Total	3	1	4
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population 0·15 (National figure 0·35).

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live births 9·93.

DEATHS

	M.	F.	Total
Total	143	153	296

Death rate per 1,000 population 9·05 (National figure 11·4).

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:

	M.	F.	Total
Total	6	2	8
Legitimate	6	2	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births 19·85 (National figure 26·8).

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age:

	M.	F.	Total
Total	4	2	6
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Average age at death due to Natural Causes: 71·19 years.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953

DISEASE	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
Syphilitic disease	1	1	2
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	4	2	6
„ „ lung, bronchus	5	—	5
„ „ breast ...	—	4	4
„ „ uterus ...	—	4	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	14	25
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	2	3	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	24	43
Coronary disease, angina	19	15	34
Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	2	4
Other heart disease	24	38	62
Other circulatory disease	7	7	14
Influenza	8	11	19
Pneumonia	5	3	8
Bronchitis	5	2	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	3	4
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	—	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	6	—	6
Congenital malformations	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	11	23
All other accidents	3	4	7
Suicide	1	1	2
TOTALS	143	153	296

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DISEASE	Total notifications	Admitted to hospital
Scarlet fever	10	2
Whooping cough	66	—
Measles	325	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1
Pneumonia	11	—
Erysipelas	2	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2

TUBERCULOSIS

Notification of new cases			Deaths		
M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
14	10	24	1	1	2

Of the 24 new cases, 13 were pulmonary, 4 cervical glands, 1 meninges, 1 abdomen, 1 breast, 1 kidney and hip, 2 pleura and 1 mesenteric glands; 8 cases were admitted to Standish House, 1 to the Cotswold Sanatorium and 2 to other hospitals. The Mass Radiography Unit again visited Stroud, mid-July. Eleven patients were re-housed during the year.

PROTECTION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The following are the total number of children who completed the two injections for protection against diphtheria during the year :—

Under 5 years	5-15 years	Total
369	82	451

Also during the year 648 children under 15 years received a maintenance or reinforcing dose.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

There were no cases during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies

Mains water is now available to some 95% of the houses in the district. In Miserden, an alternative piped supply of satisfactory quality water is available. Many houses in villages supplied with main water are still not connected and rely on springs or wells. Connections are taking place steadily and liaison is maintained between the Health Department and the Water Board. Property owners are asked to lay on a mains supply where the well or spring is found to be contaminated.

Frequent samples have been taken of the mains supply and, generally, a high standard of purity has been maintained. One bad point is the excessive hardness of the water. Some research into alternative possibilities of softening the water may well be worth while.

Cesspool Service

The emptying of Cesspools and Septic Tanks up to twice a year on request has been maintained. This service is much appreciated by ratepayers.

No other nearby district possesses a machine and help is given to other authorities if possible.

Following the laying of public sewers in the westerly part of the district, many houses have now been connected. In these cases tanks have been discontinued and filled in.

Sewerage

No further sewer extensions have been made during the year.

Serious drainage problems exist in unsewered villages. The bringing of main water intensifies the problem since householders then wish to instal baths, sinks and water closets.

It is hoped that it will soon be possible to sewer more villages and so keep pace with the Stroud Water Board Schemes.

In the sewered portions of the district, steady progress has been made in connecting properties to the sewers. The cost of the work is a great problem for many property owners, and undoubtedly deters many. Free advice to property owners is willingly given by the Health Department Staff and it is often possible to reduce costs by laying one drain to serve several properties.

Housing

Inspections of Existing Houses

451 houses have been visited. Where necessary, property owners have been asked to execute repairs. In most cases informal methods have been used, but on four occasions Statutory action was necessary.

Housing remains a most serious problem. A survey carried out in 1946-47 showed that some 900 houses were incapable of repair at a reasonable cost. It is reasonable to assume that this figure is now higher.

A large-scale effort to recondition houses is very necessary. Is it not also time that some of the bad houses were demolished, and the sites rebuilt on? This would appear particularly practicable where main services are available.

Building of New Council and Private Enterprise Houses

92 Council houses and 63 private houses were erected in 1953. This compares with 114 and 23, respectively, in 1952. The increase in private building is considerable and this is another factor which makes the provision of main sewers so essential.

66 council and 62 private houses were under construction at the end of the year.

Caravans and Moveable Dwellings

In most cases, single caravans have been licensed and no nuisances or difficulties have arisen.

One site at Stonehouse is licensed for twelve caravans and this has been well maintained. Smaller sites are licensed at Minchinhampton, Thrupp and Butterow.

Refuse Collection, Disposal and Salvage

A regular weekly collection has been maintained with the exception of Miserden and a part of Bisley Parish, where there has been a fortnightly collection.

Suitable labour for this work is very difficult to find and retain. Wage rates are not attractive and many men prefer factory work. This labour difficulty seems likely to become more acute and already the service has been near breakdown during the winter when there was absence due to sickness.

Two Dennis rear-loading vehicles are now in service. They represent a great advance of the side-loading type of vehicle besides holding more than twice as much refuse. The vehicles have diesel engines and are more economical to run than petrol engines.

Refuse is disposed of on tips at Minchinhampton and Bowbridge. Spontaneous combustion of the refuse is a serious danger. If ratepayers could be persuaded to salvage or burn waste paper and use cabbage leaves, potato peelings, etc., on their compost heaps, tipping problems would be much simplified, and costs greatly reduced.

A Joint Committee is considering possible schemes for separating and composting refuse and sewage sludge. Such a scheme would represent a great advance on present methods and might well prove self-supporting.

Collections of waste paper again showed an increase from 152 tons in 1952 to 185 tons in 1953. The supply of

waste paper was greater than the demand and the Council was fortunate in being able to dispose of the whole of the amount collected.

Revenue from salvage in 1953 was £1,166 : 0 : 6.

Dairies and Milk Retailers

The number of dairies and dairymen steadily diminishes as small rounds are sold and usually incorporated with larger ones. Preliminary information has been received that this district will form part of a Designated Area where only Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested milk may be retailed. When this takes effect the number of dairymen will be again reduced.

At present two firms hold pasteurising licences although a quantity of milk pasteurised in the Urban District is sold in the Rural area.

Five dairies bottle and sell tuberculin tested milk and seven dairymen with premises outside the Rural area retail designated milk within the Rural area.

Milk bottling and sterilising methods are supervised and informal samples have been taken. The dairymen usually welcome advice and assistance given where methods are not considered satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act — Food Hygiene

The adoption by the Council of the Clean Food Bye-laws has helped considerably in raising the standard of food handling and hygiene in the district.

It has been encouraging to see several of the larger shops voluntarily improving their premises, methods and food handling standards. In all cases the manager or proprietor has confirmed that a satisfactory increase in trade has resulted. There is no doubt that a demand from the public for higher standards will have a quick reaction from the trade.

Informal visits and talks to shop assistants and personnel have produced good results. Talks stressing the food hygiene angle were given to four Associations during the year.

The sale of ice cream is now almost all pre-packed proprietary brands. Competition is considerable and generally the public get good value and a sound product. Unfortunately, the sale of so much pre-packed ice cream has produced a litter problem in some villages. Stores have a litter bin outside and a notice imploring customers, often without effect, to place the wrapping paper in the litter bin.

All sausage-making and preserved food premises have been visited and a high standard of cleanliness found.

The general standard in bakehouses was not nearly so good, however. Bakehouses seem difficult to maintain at a good standard and Statutory action will have to be considered unless much needed improvements to premises and food handling methods are carried out.

The food condemned and destroyed was :—

Beef	...	...	...	490 lbs.
Tinned Meats	...	...	...	84 lbs.
Tinned Fruits	...	...	...	70 lbs.
Miscellaneous Tins	...	...	...	260 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	14 lbs.

Summary of Visits and Inspections

Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	451
Re-inspections necessary following above	...	...	...	...	...	...	402
Visits to food shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
„ „ dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
„ „ bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ „ factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
„ „ schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Visits re. infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
„ „ disinfection of premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
„ „ water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
„ „ connections to main sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
„ „ refuse collection and salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	218
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	364

2,085

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The following summary gives details of work carried out during the year :—

	Local Authority properties	Dwelling houses	Business premises and various	Totals
No. of properties inspected	21	1071	511	1603
No. of properties found to be rat infested	13	191	100	304
No. of properties found to be mice infested	Nil	167	49	216
No. of properties treated by Rodent Operator ...	13	358	111	482

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

PREMISES	No. on register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
i. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	42	47	4	Nil
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	95	106	11	Nil
iii. Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	137	153	15	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which pros. were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowd'g (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient	3	2	Nil	1	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	Nil	3	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	8	6	Nil	6	Nil
TOTAL	18	15	Nil	11	Nil

Outwork. Section 110

NATURE OF WORK	No. of Out-workers in August list reqd. by Sec. 110(1) (c) (3)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists
Wearing apparel : Making, etc.	2	Nil	Nil
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	4	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	6	Nil	Nil

